The Sun.

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The Salary of Mr. Bishop.

Mr. W. J. GIBSON, in a letter to the *Evening Post*, objects on legal grounds to the payment of $2,500 a year to Mr. JOSEPH BUCKLIN BISHOP as secretary of the Isthmian Canal Commission, in addition to $7,500 as Commissioner, making altogether the same remuneration as he received under the former arrangement for the diverse and interesting official and literary duties which he has been performing to the admiration of the Senate and the people.

Mr. GIBSON's point is that the statutes prohibit the payment of any additional compensation or fees to any person holding any Federal office at $2,500 or upward, unless such additional payment is specially authorized by Congress. He cites these provisions of the law:

"No allowance or compensation shall be made for any extra services whatsoever, which any officer or clerk may be required to perform, unless expressly authorized by law."—*Revised Statutes, in Section* 1764.

"No officer in any branch of the public service, or any other person whose salary, pay or emoluments are fixed by law or regulations, shall receive any additional pay, extra allowance or compensation, in any form whatever, for the disbursement of public money, or for any other service or duty whatever, unless the same is authorized by law and the appropriation therefor explicitly states that it is for such additional pay, extra allowance or compensation."—*Revised Statutes, Section* 1765.

"No person who holds an office, the salary or annual compensation attached to which amounts to the sum of $2,500, shall be appointed to or hold any other office to which compensation is attached unless specially heretofore or hereafter authorized thereto by law."—*Supplement to Revised Statutes, vol. II., page* 212.

Such is his reason for maintaining that duality of office in the case of Mr. BISHOP, with $7,500 salary as Canal Commissioner and $2,500 additional salary or compensation as secretary and corrector of public sentiment, would be unlawful.

But has Mr. GIBSON devoted due consideration to the extent to which these three enactments, which were, respectively, of dates 1842, 1876 and 1894, have been superseded, so far as they would apply to Mr. BISHOP's case, by subsequent legislation in 1902? It is true that the Spooner act contains no express repealer of former law contrary to its provisions. Its language, however, is very positive regarding the President's power to fix compensation in the special case of canal employees. We quote from the act of 1902:

"The President is authorized for the purposes aforesaid to employ such persons as he may deem necessary, and to fix their compensation."

"Said Commissioners shall each receive such compensation as the President shall prescribe until the same shall have been otherwise fixed by Congress."

Under this broad grant of authority to fix compensation in the case of each Commissioner in the first instance, and until otherwise ordered by Congress, might not President ROOSEVELT lawfully award a higher salary to Mr. BISHOP than that which the other Commissioners receive if he regarded his services as of greater value than those of the others?

Furthermore, if the proper compensation of an ordinary Commissioner is $7,500 a year, what is the difference in principle between paying $10,000 a year to a Commissioner who is also secretary and paying $30,000 to a Commissioner who is also chairman?

We specially invite the attention of Senator HALE and of Senator TILLMAN to these delicate and intellectually attractive questions of the adjustment of salary to merit.

The Largest Map of the United States.

It will not be long before we shall be able to obtain the largest map of our country ever produced on a uniform scale. The topographic map of the United States on which the Geological Survey has long been engaged, and will be for years to come, is on scales from seven to sixteen times as large as that of the map referred to; but the topographic mapping of our vast territory will not be completed for many years, and three scales are being used, so that it will never serve the purposes of a uniform map of the whole country. The new map, on the other hand, may be suspended on walls that have room enough for a decoration about sixteen feet in width and of proportional height.

In other words, this new map, showing the whole country from Maine to California, will be about sixteen feet wide and ten or eleven feet in height. It will be a Government publication; and it is prepared under the direction of Mr. HENRY GANNETT, the Geographer of the United States Geological Survey, in the house of the survey at Washington.

The latest *Bulletin* of the American Geographical Society contains a small map showing the progress that has been made in the preparation of this important cartographic product. The parts of the map thus far drawn and ready to be engraved cover about one-third of the entire country. They include the whole of Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, the Indian Territory, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, the western half of South Dakota and parts of California.

The sheets of the entire eastern part of the country are now in progress. The map will show contours of elevation so that we shall be able to recognize the surface forms of the country on a scale so large that we may derive a more distinct and definite idea of them than when they are huddled together on the small scale maps commonly in use.

This great map is drawn on a scale of 1:1,000,000, or, in other words, an inch on the map will represent about 15.8 miles in nature. It is not a very large scale, and in fact most of the European countries are mapped on a far larger scale; but our country is so vast that a map of the whole of it, intended to be hung on a wall, is not likely to be represented on a scale larger than 15.8 miles to an inch.

The scale is large enough to show every town of much importance, practically the entire railroad system, all the drainage features, the head of navigation on the rivers, the figures for many hundreds of heights above sea level, and a great deal of other information that is sparsely represented, if at all, on our ordinary maps. It is expected to be the best map of our land on which we may study the country as a whole.

The map will have another advantage. It is on the same scale as maps of large parts of Asia and Africa that the official cartographers of France, England and Germany are now producing. It will, in fact, form a part of the great map of the world on the scale of 1:1,000,000 which the last four International Geographical Congresses have recommended should be carried out by the civilized nations.

This large undertaking is considerably advanced, and it is now making progress faster than heretofore. One of the advantages which the map will give us is that we shall be able, for the first time, directly to compare distant parts of the earth's surface with one another. We have all seen maps of the Japanese-Russian war, but how many of us have any idea of the extent of country that was overrun by the Japanese armies? We might easily make the comparison if this map of the world were completed, for we should simply place some of the sheets of eastern Asia beside sheets of the United States.

The work bids fair to go on rapidly in the Western world. The Canadian Department of the Interior has charge of the production of a map of Canada on the desired scale. Our Geological Survey has taken steps to induce the South American republics to prepare maps of their respective countries on the uniform scale; and the next map we make of the Philippines is to be on the same scale. These enterprises afford an important contribution to the production of the world map on a uniform scale.

The House and the Janitor.

The Hon. HENRY BURD CASSEL of the Ninth Pennsylvania district presented and had read this resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the doorkeeper of the House be and he is hereby empowered to employ a laborer in the ladies' reception room at a salary of $75 per month, to be paid out of the contingent fund of the House, and for the session only."

The pay was amended to $60 a month for the sessions of the Fifty-ninth Congress. Mr. CASSEL explained for the benefit of Mr. WILLIAMS that this laborer was not an additional clerk, but a new janitor to take care of "the new room which has been established on the other side of the building as a ladies' reception room." Mr. FITZGERALD wanted to know if the janitor was to janit "this hallway out here in which a few chairs have been put." If so, he thought he'd have to object:

"Mr. CASSEL—Mr. Speaker, I understand that the room has been ordered equipped as a place where members can receive visitors who come here from time to time to see them on business, and that it is especially a place where ladies can wait until a member can see them.

"Mr. WILLIAMS—Where is the room?

"Mr. CASSEL—It is directly beyond that door in the lobby.

"Mr. WILLIAMS—Ever since I have been here people have sent in cards from there, ladies have come there when they wanted to, and they have been received there. It seems to me it is unnecessary to have a janitor in a hall where members go out to see people who send in their cards to them.

"Mr. CASSEL—Well, the room must be taken care of, and it has been recommended by the doorkeeper of the House as a necessity, and was so presented to the committee at its hearings.

"Mr. WILLIAMS—Is it not a fact that about the only change made is to place a table there and a few chairs?

"Mr. CASSEL—I suppose it is; but there are more people gathering there at the present time than there were formerly, because they know it is a waiting place."

If members go out into the hallway there is all the more necessity for a janitor. They don't take the door with them. A classical scholar like Mr. WILLIAMS knows that a "janitor" is a chap who minds a door. Also a "laborer," in the Federal tongue, is a person paid to rest.

Mr. FITZGERALD recounted the evolution of a hallway into a reception room. Formerly a hallway opposite the entrance on the Democratic side was the only place where the Democrats could receive their friends. Somebody put a half dozen chairs and a table in it. The corridor is under the control of the Capitol police. From time to time one of these majesties walks through the corridor "to see that the members of the minority do not conduct themselves in an improper manner." What were the Capitol police for if not to keep order in the corridors? Mr. FITZGERALD ought to know that the Capitol police are to look at, to impose by their authority. To watch chairs and tables is beneath their dignity. To watch a door belongs to another profession, janitory. The New York member is averse to janitors. Most people are in Christmas week:

"I do hope that the House will not inaugurate a system of janitors for the corridors about this Capitol. This is an entering wedge, and I am astounded that any eight men from one committee should be able to come in here with a unanimous report in favor of such an absurd proposition. Why, Mr. Speaker, I would invite the members of the House to go out and see just where they wish to place a janitor. It is about 20 feet from the door of the House to the outside door of the Capitol. There are, as I have said, perhaps a half dozen chairs and a table there, and to take care of that reception room it is proposed to put a janitor on the rolls of this House at the rate of $60 a month."

This appeal to the impenetrability of space is far fetched. Where to place the janitor? There's always room for him on the payroll. More talk:

"Mr. MANN—Mr. Speaker, I am very much surprised at the base ingratitude of the minority side of the House. The House sets apart a receiving room for the benefit of the minority, and the members of the majority are required to see their friends in the hall, with no chairs and no table——

"Mr. CLARK of Missouri—And no janitor.

"Mr. MANN—But through the magnanimity of the House controlled by the majority we set apart a corridor, tables and chairs, with opportunity for people to sit down, and then these people, when we wish to keep it clean, decline to have the place kept clean. [Laughter.] We give you the best we have got, and still you kick. [Laughter and applause.]

"Mr. FITZGERALD—Will the gentleman yield just a moment?

"Mr. CASSEL—Certainly.

"Mr. FITZGERALD—Mr. Speaker, when I was a boy I was very familiar with a motto which hung on the wall of many homes. It was, 'GOD bless our home.' Recalling that, I think we might properly say in reply to the gentleman from Illinois, 'GOD bless the magnanimity of the majority of this House.' [Laughter.]"

Mr. WILLIAMS suggested that if the corridor had been for the use of the majority instead of the minority, then "judging by recent political history we could understand why it was strictly necessary to have somebody on the payroll to keep it clean." [Laughter and applause.] If the money was to be taken out of the Treasury as a memorial of the chivalrous courtesy of the majority to the minority, how would it do to use the sum for a little piece of sculpture?

"A small pedestal with a little bit of a statuette, let us say, of the Speaker of the House, with a scroll, and on it the words: 'Fifty-ninth Congress: to the minority with the compliments of the majority.' [Laughter and applause.]"

With this new tribute to the Speaker's beauty and to Republican chivalry the discussion closed. The resolution was beaten. The door, the six chairs and the table will have to take care of themselves, and may be split for souvenirs by lady visitors.

The Recess of Congress.

The holiday recess is one of the most useful factors in national legislation. The sessions of the few weeks which precede the adjournment serve to bring to the front the measures which are to become the leading features of the winter's work. There is a general outlining of the direction to be given to each. Discussion in committee and in personal conference gives some clue to the position most likely to be taken by individual Senators and Representatives. The few weeks preceding the recess are a sort of preface and table of contents.

Then comes the recess, during which, in the seclusion of home or in conference with constituents, the Congressman gets his bearings. He has an opportunity to think over and to digest some of the information furnished in committee hearings or through the columns of the press. Not infrequently a Congressman goes home for the holidays with a fairly fixed opinion upon a certain question and returns with quite a different idea. He has discovered the error of his ways. The "insurgent" may return as the gentlest of lambs, or the lamb may come back as a rabid insurgent.

The holiday recess this year is an intermission following a most interesting prologue.

Japan's Industrial Programme.

Whether Japan succeeds, as many observers believe she will, in assuming the leading rôle in the struggle for the trade of the Far East or whether her experience supports the prediction of sceptics, there is no doubt that she is in earnest. But her trade statistics make it evident that she has a long road to travel before attaining the fulfilment of her aspirations for trade domination.

In a recent report Consul-General MILLER states that "the total number of factories in Japan at the end of 1903 was 8,274." The population of Japan is somewhat more than half that of the United States. In 1900 the State of Connecticut alone had nearly 1,000 more factories than there were in the whole of the Mikado's realm in 1903. At that time only 45 per cent. of the Japanese factories used steam or other motive power. The total number of operatives was 483,839, and the value of the output approximated $150,000,000. The census returns for Connecticut in 1900 show 176,469 operatives and an output valued at $350,000,000. Massachusetts, with 497,448 operatives, compared with Japan's 483,839, produced in 1900 merchandise of a value a little exceeding one billion dollars.

One of the heaviest handicaps to the industrial progress of that country appears in the fact that her mechanics do not readily adapt themselves to the economical use of machines and machinery. They can build battleships, sail them and win victories with them. They can make cannon and discharge them with destructive precision. They can and do make a wide variety of articles of wood and of metal. But they very quickly wreck and wear out the machinery and the appliances with which all this work is done. The amount which must be charged annually to a depreciation account is a heavy item. This will doubtless be overcome in time. The machines and devices so familiar to American mechanics are new and strange to them, and their mechanical education is likely to prove a costly process.

There are those who doubt Japan's success as a manufacturing country. They base their argument chiefly on the present mechanical inefficiency and on the limited native supply of raw materials. Such a belief is not to be dismissed summarily as utterly without warrant, but the weight of evidence supports the conviction that these obstacles will be overcome and that before many years Japan's competitors will be obliged to hustle if they would get trade in her neighborhood.

Baiting West Point and Annapolis.

For some reason invisible to the public certain members of every Congress love to bark at and "worry" Annapolis and West Point. The custom seems to belong to the good old days when an American's hair, if he had any, was supposed to stand bolt upright with horror at the thought of a standing army, aristocrats in uniform, military despotism, and so on. The annual barking doesn't hurt the military or the naval academy, and may do good to the barkers.

Some time ago the Hon. THADDEUS MACLAY MAHON of Pennsylvania tried to make West Point and Annapolis wear drab. He wanted to provide by law that every youth entering at those nurseries of war should have to take an oath not to engage in fist fighting or hazing. Now he tells the House:

"I am one of those who believe that when two young men or two older men deliberately plan to have a brutal fist fight that every instinct of a gentleman in that fight is wiped out. That is for dogs and not for men."

We have never seen a dogfight, Marquis of Queensberry rules. Apparently that is a Pennsylvania diversion. Mr. MAHON is greatly exercised by the pugilistic instincts of the young satraps of Annapolis and West Point:

"Mr. Chairman, I am free to say that I have an appointment to make to the academy, and I have a bright boy of 16 years and 1 month old, and I have withheld his appointment, and I am free to say if I cannot send that bright little boy in my district down to Annapolis without subjecting him to this brutal treatment, some other person can fill that appointment. [Applause.] He is now living among cultivated people and not in danger of the insults and fists of the big rowdies of upper class."

It is none of our business, but we do hope that Mr. MAHON will never allow that bright and undoubtedly sweet little boy to be brought up as a fighter. Put him into something nice, soft and comparatively non-resistant, say the tape and thread line, or the charlotte russe industry.

Mr. MAHON makes one singular confession: "I was a boy once."

There must be some mistake about this.

The Hon. THETUS WILLRETTE SIMS of Tennessee, who "saw one game" of football, and "that was enough for" him, shudders as he cries:

"Think of it! Millions have been spent for magnificent buildings, officers detailed under good salaries, and young gentlemen sent there from all parts of the United States to learn what? The rules and practices of the prizering—uppercuts, solar plexus, stomach punching. How can any man who has a heart feel proud of a record made by a young man that goes there and learns such things as that?"

Yes, think of it! and the more you think of it, the less you will think of it. Those young devils should be reading TOLSTOI and discussing disarmament. What's the use of educating boys if they are not to be different from other boys and have this old Adam of fighting cast out of them? We feel like singing noble hymns in praise of THETUS WILLRETTE SIMS as he speaks these words:

"I am not willing to vote appropriations here to educate young men in a charity school to compete with CORBETT, FITZSIMMONS and JEFFRIES in the learning of the prizering. I will vote willingly to wipe out the whole thing if it cannot be run as a Christian nation ought to run it." [Applause.]

Is war itself Christian, Mr. SIMS? Would a really Christian nation, if there were one, run war schools?

A good gray poet, the Hon. BLOODGOOD H. CUTTER, the Long Island Theocritus, has just sold more of his broad lands at a fat price. It is a pleasure to see the Muse no longer out at elbows and clumping along barefoot, but whizzing in her devil wagon and able to substitute the shears for the lyre on dividend days.

Unconscious Humor.

From the New York Tribune.

Even Aristides by the very fame of his excellence wearied Athens. Mr. Odell cannot hope to escape the common fate, and he will not add to his reputation by putting personal pride and prowess before the welfare of the party of his professed devotion.

Gen. McClellan's Headgear.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I do not believe Gen. McClellan ever wore a slouch hat. It is possible, nay, probable, that in the early part of 1861 in Washington, on occasions of ceremony, he might have worn the regulation stiff hat, with feathers, turned up at one side, with a sort of gilt cockade representing the American coat of arms, a sort of cross between a sombrero and the steeple crowned tile of the Pilgrims.

In the field he wore the "McClellan cap," which was not like the ridiculous pudding bag served out by the authorities, nor quite like the French forage cap of that day, which it much resembled, but which had a depressed crown.

The equestrian portrait of the organizer of the Army of the Potomac, and its redeemer after Pope's fiasco, in the committee room of the Board of Aldermen in the City Hall gives a most excellent idea of the General and his headgear. "Volunteer" is scarcely correct in saying the Army of the Potomac at first mostly wore the fatigue cap. They went out with the regulation stiff felt. The slouch, bought from sutlers, was of better material and replaced it. Why, it is historical that at the beginning of the battle of Gettysburg the Confederates, who had expected to meet merely Pennsylvania militia, remarked with disgust: "They're no militia, the big hatted pups! They're the Army of the Potomac." IRISH BRIGADE.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* On page 548 of *Harper's Weekly* dated August 31, 1861, Gen. McClellan is shown with such a cap in his hand as he was always wearing when the writer saw him in 1862—that particular pattern of a forage cap with the back so long that the round top piece stood nearly upright on the visor. It was called a "McClellan cap." A BERDAN SHARPSHOOTER.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Dec. 22.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Your correspondent "Volunteer" writes on "Gen. McClellan's Headgear" as follows:

"The Army of the Potomac generally wore the fatigue cap and on occasions of ceremony we added thereto a paper collar."

Will "Volunteer" relieve the anxiety of a student of history by describing how the paper collar was affixed to, or draped upon, the fatigue cap? E.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.

Hot Shot for a Scot.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In your issue of December 19 "Globe Trotting Scotsman" writes: "The truth is you have not yet produced in all your history a really great name in literature or art or in the sciences of the mind."

This country has produced a great number of men who have common sense.

CONSTANT READER.

HAVERHILL, Mass., Dec. 22.

Criminal Vandals at Brescia.

From the London Globe.

One of the most wantonly villainous actions ever performed by a robber has just taken place at Brescia, where the palace of Count Salvadago was the other night broken into by burglars. The thieves, however, could lay their hands upon no valuables of their own kind, so proceeded to the wilful destruction of others of greatly higher value, which they probably knew to be of no use to themselves. The palace is full of mediæval paintings by Titian, Moroni, Moretto, Borgognone, and other famous painters, and of rare fifteenth century furniture. Two of the salons which contain these and other treasures were deliberately set on fire by the disappointed thieves, and a number of the pictures and other objects perished. Among the paintings destroyed were several Borgognones and a ceiling by Moretto.

Yuletide.

'Twas a lonely auto sobbing,
All neglected in the snow,
And it didn't need a Kipling
To translate the tale of woe.

"Pause," it chugged with throbbing sorrow;
"Note my situation, please—
I, who made the proud and haughty
Grovel to me on their knees.

"Not a soul has crawled beneath me,
Not a worshipper has knelt
To inquire in husky accents
How my whatyoucallit felt.

"I have met a mighty rival,
Quite the only one I know—
Lad and lass are now repairing
Underneath the mistletoe."

MCLANDBURGH WILSON.

CATTLE IN THE TROPICS.

Europeans used to say that cattle in the tropics were worth nothing except for hides and horns. This may be true to-day in some of the most humid and heated parts of the tropics, but no other domestic animal is making so much headway in the warm countries as cattle. In many places, even under the equator, cattle are becoming a new source of wealth, and the people are deriving much comfort and utility from them.

Fifteen years ago they were importing cattle into the Congo basin to supply fresh meat for the whites. Then the experiment was made of introducing cattle for breeding purposes, and as it was thought European animals could not endure the change in climate they were brought from the Canary Islands and other points off the African coast. They did well on the pasturage of the lower Congo, and finally some one conceived the idea that European breeds would thrive in the better climate of the great plateau in the interior.

There are to-day about seventy centres for breeding cattle scattered over the Congo State. The stock was not brought from the islands, but represents a number of the best milk and beef breeds of Europe. The enterprise has not succeeded equally well in all places, but it has proved on the whole to be a great success. Twenty years ago the natives in vast districts of the Congo basin had never heard of cattle. An Angola saddle ox driven into many a Congo village was one of the wonders of the world. But the whole Congo is going to have all the cattle it needs and the animals are already a great blessing to the whites for a thousand miles from the Atlantic.

If we were to take a steamboat trip up the Magdalena River we should see just the backs of thousands of cattle grazing in the high grass of the hot Colombian plain. But fewer of the Colombian cattle are going to Cuba hereafter.

Cuba's herds were nearly all destroyed during the long war, but by large importation the island has almost 2,000,000 head at last, and our Secretary of Legation at Havana writes that there is an excellent profit in fattening cattle for the market.

There ought to be. The grasses are sweet and nutritious, and much of the grazing is of the best quality the year around. Haystacks are never a feature of the Cuban landscape, and a new phase of the cattle business has come in to increase the profits of the Cuban industry.

The islanders are beginning to demand a better grade of beef, and they are importing a considerable number of Herefords and shorthorns. Both Spaniards and Cubans are showing an interest in better breeds and in scientific methods of breeding. Cuba is beginning to do what the Congo State has been doing for several years; and with good home markets and opportunities for export, cattle raising is likely to become one of the three great industries of the island.

Christmas at Washington.

Theodore—Hello!

Uncle Sam—Hello!

Theodore—That you, Sammy?

Uncle Sam—Yep; don't sing me that box song, Teddy; I'm on to that—what do you want?

Theodore—Want? How do you know I want anything? Perhaps I have some news for you!

Uncle Sam—That's the way they generally begin when they want something, my son.

Theodore (laughing)—I see you weren't born the day before yesterday, Uncle, and it's well you were not, too. What I wanted to say was that I've received a present—for Miss Columbia. What do you think it is?

Uncle Sam—I'm a poor guesser, Ted. Pearl necklace?

Theodore—Nope.

Uncle Sam—Give it up. A new religion?

Theodore—Uncle, you're joking—be serious.

Uncle Sam—I can't guess, my boy—she has everything she needs, and more too—what is it?

Theodore—A statue.

Uncle Sam—Gee whiz! Of a woman?

Theodore—No; a man.

Uncle Sam—Who is it? George, Abraham, Ulys—

Theodore—Not at all, Uncle, it isn't a home made man. You see, this one lived far over the seas, oh, many years ago, and a sort of connection of his sent his statue over to commemorate the—the—the—

Uncle Sam—The what?

Theodore—To tell the truth, I've forgotten. However, I couldn't very well refuse; only now I don't know what to do with it—what do you suggest?

Uncle Sam—Philadelphia?

Theodore—Uncle, if they could hear you—be serious, please.

Uncle Sam—Isn't there a vacant spot between Bobbie Burns and Bill Shakesp——

Theodore—Do be serious; this is important.

Uncle Sam—How deep is the Potomac?

Theodore—Sammy, your ancestors must have been either Irish or Gascon——

Uncle Sam—Or perhaps Greek or Roman, no doubt, Theodore. Well, as a matter of fact, I don't know what to advise you. It's a nuisance, anyway. We don't need statues; we want men and women always. However, do as you like, Ted. You have common sense, honesty and much, oh, very much understanding, in spite of all the Judges that ever came down the river. Do as you think best. What does Miss Columbia say?

Theodore—Oh, she doesn't care one way or the other; she's too busy.

Uncle Sam—Well, use your own judgment, Ted. How are the Senators to-day? I felt some teeth then. Well, so long, I'm——

Theodore—Wait a moment, Sam; you haven't forgotten that present?

Uncle Sam—What present?

Theodore—Why, the one you promised me—you know.

Uncle Sam—Gone clean out of my mind—not a new State?

Theodore—Dear me, no—are you listening?

Uncle Sam—Yep.

Theodore—Those boats.

Uncle Sam—What boats?

Theodore—Oh, you know well enough.

Uncle Sam—Search me.

Theodore (softly)—Two battleships.

Parkways and the City's Credit.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The residents of Seventh avenue who are clamoring for a parkway in the centre of that thoroughfare will do well to take a look at upper Broadway (commonly called "The Bullyvard"). The condition of this street is a disgrace to any city, and I fear when the city shall have ceased spending the money on the proposed Seventh avenue parkway it will rapidly deteriorate into a similar condition: The grass plots being so in name only, in fact being covered with the refuse of all descriptions—ashes, old shoes, tin cans, &c.; the trees are rapidly dying, many of them being a menace to life by reason of their rottenness. The first of July generally finds the foliage of a great portion of them demolished by caterpillars. This condition obtains in many of the other parks, but nevertheless the city proceeds to spend millions in such questionable improvements as the new Seventh avenue parkway.

Public sentiment should be aroused to the uselessness of such expenditures, particularly in view of the fact that the city finds it increasingly difficult to find a market for its corporate stock, which stock has fallen from a 2.75 per cent. basis in former years to a 3.55 per cent. basis and the end is not yet.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22. J. T. BECKETT.

Seventh Avenue's Name.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* What is the matter with Seventh avenue? It is its name to begin with, it is really Seventh avenue, and every one is familiar with it under that name. It is a good name and a lucky number. If we must change the name of a numbered avenue, why not commence with Fifth avenue?

I suggest that it hereafter be known as Avenue des Grafters. That would be sonorous, fetching and truly descriptive. E. B. B.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.

Accounted For.

Friendly Cop—Is this your house?

Outlate—Yesh; but it mush be another of those duplicate presents.

Carl Schurz in *McClure's Magazine* for January tells of his student life at Bonn and the exciting times of 1848. Mr. Lincoln Steffens discourses on Mayor Fagan of Jersey City and Mr. R. S. Baker on the beef trust, while Mr. H. B. Needham tells of President Roosevelt's outdoor life. Half a dozen short stories make up the fiction, Mr. S. E. White beginning a series of "Arizona Nights," and there are several pieces of verse.

BALTIMORE.

Strange Facts Collected by a Visitor in Maryland's Big Town.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* There are many things in the city of Baltimore that strike the stranger as peculiar. The city is in no county; it is a separate political division. But then it has no control over its police force. That organization is ruled by commissioners appointed by the Governor of the State. The number of policemen cannot be increased except by permission from the State Legislature.

In Baltimore nearly all houses except those built in recent years are subject to a ground rent which is irredeemable and the persons who have these ground rents hold on to them and don't let go until death compels them to give them to their descendants.

In Baltimore when the city would condemn property for the use of the public it cannot get control of it at once as other cities can when they need property for public uses. There is no such thing as giving bond there and going on with the improvement. Every property owner whose lot is desired must be heard in court if he objects to the award of the condemnation jury. If he is not satisfied with the verdict of the court it is his privilege to take his case to the Court of Appeals. That is the reason the building of the new docks of Baltimore has already been delayed eighteen months. That is the reason that it will be many months yet before work is commenced on these docks. Now, if they had a law to give bond and go on with the work the docks would have been completed by this time.

Baltimore, I am told, has voted $1,000,000 as a starter for new parks and boulevards, yet strange to say the conditions at the gates of its chief pleasure park are most obnoxious. This park, called Druid Hill, is one of the show places of Baltimore. As I am rather fond of parks I went out there the other afternoon with a friend, a Baltimorean. The car that carried us to the park took us around a little street with the aristocratic name of Park Terrace. This little street binds upon the park and the main gate of the park is on it. When the car stopped we found that it was necessary to step off into a mass of mud and slime three or four inches thick. Although a stranger, I could not help complaining. The street was no better than a bog. No attempt had been made at paving. My Baltimore friend laughed and said: "Well, if you can get that street cleaned and made decent the majority of Baltimoreans will sing your praises. I'll take you over and show you the other gate at Eutaw place."

For curiosity I went over to the other gate and found a ditch reaching from the gate for about a block. On both sides of this ditch were handsome houses, evidently occupied by wealthy citizens of Baltimore.

"What's the matter?" I asked. "No municipal art societies, park approach or improvement societies in Baltimore?" "Why, we have lots of them," said my friend, "but the reason we don't pave those streets and beautify the park approaches is because of a peculiar law." "Another peculiar law?" said I.

"Yes," replied he, "a law that makes fish of one and fowl of another. All of the new part of Baltimore that came into the city fifteen years ago shall not pay a greater tax rate than 60 cents on the $100 (the people in the old city pay $2 on the $100) unless the blocks are no greater than 275,000 square feet, have six houses on them and are paved on all four sides. Druid Hill Park is in this annex. Now, if we pave these streets at the park gates the property of those on the street will be assessed at $2 on the $100 instead of 60 cents."

Poets have in humorous verse told about these awful park environs. Bushels of letters have been mailed to the newspapers. Urgent protests have been sent to the Mayor and City Council, and, said my Baltimore friend, "we don't mind publicity. If we can only get rid of the nuisance all will be forgiven."

I enclose one of these protests. The boys and girls of the public schools try their hands at composition on the park gates of Baltimore. Yes, this city is a place of peculiar laws. M.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.

A Roman Catholic Theologian's Reply to Mr. Goldwin Smith.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* It would be hardly fair to allow Mr. Goldwin Smith's recent broadside against Christianity to go without an answer. It is true there is nothing original in what he has written, for he is simply repeating what the German rationalists, Haeckel and Harnack, have said before him, nor does he add anything to the value of their gratuitous assumptions.

Thus he writes: "Christianity was in its origin a moral, not a dogmatic, revelation. In its great manifesto, the Sermon on the Mount, there is not a word of dogma." This statement is incorrect. Christianity is based on the divine fact, essentially dogmatic, that on Christmas Day there came into the world the Incarnate God, Jesus Christ, having a divine and a human nature, but only one, a divine, personality. This is the dogma that lies behind the Sermon on the Mount and gives it value. Without that preceding and fundamental dogma the Sermon on the Mount would be only the discourse of a mere philosopher like Aristotle or Plato.

Again Mr. Smith says: "Nor is there anything really dogmatic in the epistles of St. Paul." This is also incorrect, for the dogma of original sin is so clearly expressed in the epistle to the Romans and the dogma of the Resurrection of Christ is so often stated in St. Paul's epistles that Mr. Smith must be a man of courage to contradict without proof the interpretation of all the great commentators.

"Dogma makes its first appearance in the fourth Gospel" is another assertion of the illustrious controversialist, who forgot that in Matthew, chapter xxvi., verse 63, Jesus, solemnly interrogated by the high priest, declared himself to be the Son of God, for which declaration he was condemned to death as guilty of blasphemy (Mark, xiv., 62). These Gospels antedate the fourth. Enough. A theological kindergarten would be necessary for a sceptic who says that the work of the fourth Gospel is "the work of an Alexandrian Jew." Mr. Smith, in making this assertion, shows that he is not well posted in recent Biblical criticism, and cannot have read the able refutation of this rationalistic theory by Italian and German scholars within the past few years.

From Biblical lore Mr. Smith skips to Church history; and here again he is in error. He says: "Then the Church having been identified with the State, and that State being the Byzantine despotism." The Catholic Church was never identified with the Byzantine despotism. The Pope was never Emperor, and the Emperor never Pope. The union of Church and State does not mean their identification. Mr. Smith is not always careful of his words; he meant "united," but he wrote "identified." The "United States" are not the "identified States."

Again: "We have Popes instigating the Norman to the conquest of England and Ireland in the interest of the faith." But as every one knows, England and Ireland had the faith in perfection long before the Norman invasion. In what book of poems does Mr. Smith study history?

Again: "The Inquisition with its *auto da fé*." There were two inquisitions, the Roman Inquisition, a spiritual tribunal which still exists, and which never had an *auto da fé*, and the Spanish Inquisition, a political institution, of which De Maistre, one of Mr. Smith's literary friends, gives an excellent account. A true scholar is always precise in his statements.

I would respectfully suggest that Mr. Smith read De Maistre's letters on the Spanish Inquisition; and the files of the *Civiltà Cattolica* for the past two years for Biblical information. Of course, the *Civiltà* is a Jesuit publication, and Mr. Smith does not like "Jesuitism"; perhaps because when a Jesuit writes history he is accustomed to quote original documents; and when he writes theology he is logical and conscientious in distinguishing the different meanings of words and of things so as to be exact and truthful. HENRY A. BRANN, D. D., Rector of St. Agnes's Church.

NEW YORK, Dec. 14.

Complaint.

Knicker—Is Subbubs kicking about the weather?

Bocker—Yes, he says it has been so mild he hasn't been able to lend the snowshovel.

Identified.

From the Washington Star.

No such man as Santy Claus! Now what you talkin' 'bout?
I used to have that feelin' of uncertainty an' doubt,
But personal experience is what has proved to me
He's just as real as anything that you could wish to see.

When Christmas Day is under way and lights are beaming bright,
I notice if I'm kind o' blue an' not jes' feelin' right,
This world seems like a surly child that needs a talkin' to,
An' Santy doesn't come aroun' like what he used to do.

But, on the other hand, if my digestion's strong an' good,
I start in spreadin' Christmas cheer aroun' the neighborhood,
An' find an echo in my heart for every laugh of glee;
You wouldn't want a more industrious Santy Claus than me.

So don't you try to give me no more thoughts to struggle with,
Suggestin' that ol' Santy Claus is nothin' but a myth.
I've demonstrated many times he's tangible and true,
Because, you see, I'm Santy Claus myself; an' so are you.

A CRUSADER'S SUCCESS.

Efforts to Stop Traffic in Worthless American Degrees and Licenses.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Six years ago next January a man walked into the consulate at Munich and had the assurance to tell me that he was going to America to buy himself a professional degree, saying that in America anything could be done with money. I watched that fellow's return and secured evidence that his fraudulent license and academic degree emanated from Chicago. To my sorrow I soon learned that a traffic far spread was carried on from our country with many lands, but especially Germany.

Four years ago I brought home photographic reproductions of a bushel of such worthless documents, but to my sorrow learned that only the original documents could be used in the courts, and my whole endeavor was berated as a tempest in a teapot.

Persistency of endeavor, however, rewarded me with evidence right here at home against a prominent State official of Illinois. I caused his removal, and insisted on making of him an example, both on account of the wrong he had committed here and the suffering he had entailed upon American practitioners in Germany. The Government and courts there have long ago lost faith in our ability to stay the perpetration of this wrong because of the delay in our courts.

Four years have elapsed and to-day I am greeted by the report that the courts of Illinois have meted out punishment to the offender referred to above.

There still remain others whose punishment should follow, and there is reason to hope that the full measure of success may yet crown my efforts to rid our country of this shameful traffic and Germany of its consequent imposition. JAMES H. WORMAN.

UNITED STATES CONSULATE, Three Rivers, Quebec, Canada, Dec. 21.

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD.

Not only has Japan a large and increasing ocean marine of her own, but one of her shipping companies, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, now has thirty-four oceangoing steamships of 77,092 aggregate tonnage under charter. Of these, fifteen, of 45,736 tons, are British; seven, of 10,198 tons, Norwegian; two, of 3,762 tons, German; in other words, twenty-four foreign ships of 59,696 tons are necessary to this one company, besides its own very large fleet, owned and hired, of Japanese vessels for its share (carrying) of Japan's great and growing commerce.

Almost daily ocean steamships loaded with freight, passengers and mail are arriving at the Port of Manila from all parts of the world, while Manila's development as a shipping centre for the Orient has barely begun. What may we not expect when Manila's harbor and dock improvements are completed?

Chinese students in Japan now number more than 3,000, engaged in all the studies available at American high schools, colleges, universities, professional, technical and trade schools.

British coal is being imported into Manila in 7,000 ton lots. Other shipments for the islands, lots of 5,000 tons and more, do not touch Manila. Japan and Australia also ship coal to the Philippines.

Dr. G. N. Brinck, Deputy Superintendent General of Education of the Philippines, says that the islands have 830 American teachers, 5,000 native teachers and more than 500,000 native pupils, like Japanese in intellectual readiness and keenness.

Shipments of 5,000 to 7,000 bales of hemp from Manila and other ports in the Philippines are an almost daily occurrence.

Double tracking the Siberian Railway will certainly not occur for a year or two. As there are neither rails nor other material, nor workmen along the lines, the difficulty is great. Moreover, the whole of the $5,310,000 appropriation for the purpose has been spent.

Corea affords good opportunities for shooting both large and small game, and has a delightful climate at all seasons of the year. The new American line of steamers, Japan to Corea, is already available.

Manila daily papers record vessels arriving from and leaving for Norfolk, Va., Hongkong, all Chinese ports, all Japanese ports, all Australian ports, San Francisco, Honolulu, Seattle, New York and many other ports of the world. That reads much like a port of New York shipping list. The Philippine coast steamer list is a much larger one.

The Russo-Chinese bank at Yokohama is reopening in order to defray the travelling expenses of the Russian prisoners returning home.

Japan's Government will realize $8,100,000 from the sale of such merchant vessels seized during the war as it does not desire to keep for its own auxiliary service.

It is understood that altogether the peace negotiations cost the Japanese Government $100,000.

Cargo for the use of the United States navy reaches Manila in lots of 1,000 tons or more frequently.

A number of advertising pocket dictionaries, sent by an American firm to Queen's College, Hongkong, were torn in pieces by the students. Evidently China has a spasm of "frenzied education."

The *Manchuria Daily Report*, the Japanese paper published in Newchwang, Manchuria, recently said editorially: "We repeat that every inch of Manchuria under Japanese occupation now has been bought for a dear price in blood and money. Hence Japan is its legitimate owner. China has forfeited her suzerainty over it by once making, so to speak, a present of it to Russia." Nevertheless, Japan will do what the treaty of peace says, "restore Manchuria to China," but there is nothing to prevent her buying it back again at such nominal prices as China chooses to accept.

Grand opera, vaudeville, melodrama and heavy drama, circuses, church sociables, baseball games, newspaper fights and cock fights are the order of the day in "Little New York," otherwise known as Manila, P. I.

"The well known Russian firm of Ginsburg & Co." says the *Manila Daily Bulletin*, "intends to start a shipping business at Vladivostok, with a subsidy from the Government, and to open a regular steamship service between Japan, Corea and China. The real object of this enterprise is to oppose the organization of the Japanese volunteer ships. The opposition will be as futile as is all opposition to Japan's commercial development."

Manila shipped no less than 16,522 bales of hemp by the Shawmut to Tacoma, Wash., on October 20. In addition the steamer carried thirty-nine packages of Philippine products, including a lot of Manila cigars. She had arrived with 7,000 tons of American goods. Yet some people say a trade of volume can never be built up between the United States and the Philippines.

Manila advertisements include steamship companies, banks, tobacco companies, forwarding agents, vaudeville, Chinese partnerships and dissolutions, bonded warehouses, boat builders, engineers, accountants, stenographers, lawyers, live leopard for sale, gunpowder, hunting goods, livery (numerous), electric railway, electric lighting, telephones, beer, shoes, hotels, druggists; fire, life, accident, typhoon and every kind of insurance; stock brokers, bucket shops, churches, Y. M. C. A., circus, grand opera, iron works, farm machinery, malt extracts, commission merchants, lumber dealers, houses to sell and rent (every one with a fine view), boarding houses, Portland cement, tailors; sun, moon and tide reports, weather bureau, mail closings, ship sailings and arrivals, saloons, oyster grottoes, horses, produce dealers, barbers, cigar shops, and, strange to say, not a single dry goods emporium. This list would do for any American coast city.

It is stated that the Hamburg-American and North German Lloyd shipping companies will start lines to combat Japanese shipping on the Yangtse River, China.

In spite of the boycott, Chinese have ordered in the United States a large steel dredger similar to those in use in California. Boycotts are not in it when American goods are wanted and money can be made out of them. It's impossible to boycott the lively dollar.

In fifty years New Zealand's population has grown from 37,000 to 857,000, consisting of 454,000 males and 403,000 females. In 1870 1,140,000 acres were under cultivation; in 1904 13,868,300 acres. In 1904 New Zealand had 314,000 horses, 1,736,000 head of cattle, 18,280,000 sheep, and 255,000 hogs. Exports increased from $6,605,000 in 1861 to $73,000,000 in 1904, while imports rose from $5,735,000 in 1858 to $66,455,000 in 1904.

India's increase in cotton acreage this year is 8 per cent. That part of India known as the United Provinces has 4,500,000 acres under cott. on now.

Canada's shipping service to Australia receives $194,000 annual subsidy, and that to China and Japan $73,000. The British Government pays the same amount to the China and Japan service. We pay nothing—except freight money to foreign owned lines.

Old Arkansas.

From a speech in the House by the Hon. R. B. Macon.

Sir, in closing, permit me to slightly paraphrase the effusion of the versemaker and say:

"Let the howlers howl and the growlers growl,
Let the prowlers prowl and the gaudy gewgaws go it;
For behind the night there is plenty of light,
And the people of old Arkansas are all right—thank God—
And I know it."